

Dear Partners,

I hope this message finds you well, as we continue to navigate the changes in our world and the impact to our field of international education.

I very much regret to inform you that we have made the difficult decision to suspend the entire incoming exchange program for Fall 2020. UF's plan to re-open for the Fall semester will call for the majority of undergraduate classes to be offered online. Given the J-1 visa regulations, that do not allow for your students to take more than 3 credits online, we will simply not be able to accommodate your students and still be in compliance with US immigration policies and regulations.

We are currently exploring the possibility of allowing remote enrollment for exchange students, and more details will be forthcoming in July.

Please find some additional information that may be helpful as we move forward:

- What options are available?
 - Previously nominated students may withdraw their application, defer to the Spring 2021 semester directly, or opt to defer to a future semester, as they decide individually with approval from your institution. As we finalize details about remote enrollment options, we will account for the possibility that Academic Year length applicants may want to enroll in the Fall 2020 semester remotely from abroad and continue physical mobility in the Spring 2021, as the situation permits.
- Spring 2021 Deferrals:
 - Please email ccesarotti@ufic.ufl.edu to indicate any student(s) that would like to defer. Administratively, we can update the student's current application term. No additional nomination would need to be submitted. **Timeline:** Nominations for the Spring 2021 semester can continue on a rolling basis until September 1, our standard Spring nomination deadline.
- Withdrawals:
 - Students can withdraw their online application by logging into their account at <https://iss.internationalcenter.ufl.edu/>. Alternatively, partners or students can email ccesarotti@ufic.ufl.edu to withdraw any application, they might have on file. **Timeline:** Withdrawals are acceptable at any time in the application process. We anticipate that next steps in approval for Spring 2021 students may begin mid to late July.
- Deferrals to Fall 2021 and later
 - Any deferrals into the next Academic Year (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022) would require nomination resubmission in Spring 2021 in accordance with our standard nomination deadlines. You can expect us to communicate our 'call for applicants' as normal, approximately 6 months prior to the start of the given semester.
- Impact on Exchange Balances

- Our goal is to maintain a flexible approach to exchange balances. We will honor placement numbers as outlined in our exchange agreements. We welcome any further negotiations with regards to balance on a case-by-case basis. Please email ccesarotti@ufic.ufl.edu with any questions you might have.
- Charges/Fees
 - There are no charges/fees associated with our initial application process. As such, there are no refunds to be issued at this time. All previous communications discouraged students from any spending related to their UF exchanges (including housing, transportation, health insurance).
- Remote Enrollment for Fall 2020
 - The UF International Center is currently working with academic departments and administrative bodies to explore the possibility of remote enrollment. We will account for the possibility of nominated Academic Year length students participating in their first semester remotely, followed by physical mobility in the spring, as the situation allows. **Timeline:** We expect further options to be communicated in early July, with an adjusted time frame to allow eligible students to opt in and prepare for the Fall semester. Should we move forward with this option, we will count online enrollment into the regular exchange balance.
- Academic Dates
 - Academic Year, Fall 2020 - Spring 2021: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/2020-2021/>
 - Academic Year, Fall 2021 - Spring 2022: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/dates-deadlines/2021-2022/>

We will communicate our decision to cancel the Fall program to any students who have applied for the Fall 2020 semester. Please consult with your students to determine how you best recommend they proceed.

Finally, please do not hesitate to let me know, if there are any additional questions you might have.

In closing, let me share the [reflections of Prof. Leonardo Villalón](#), who serves as the Dean of the UF International Center. These thoughts are in consideration of the impact of COVID-19 as well as ongoing demonstrations for racial justice here in the United States.

Best regards,

Carolyn Cesarotti

Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

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